



## CAMPUS

### Edit-a-thon

Art history students edit Wikipedia pages to include Canadian women. **P3**



## ENTERTAINMENT

### Refugee theatre

Langara grad Carmen Aguirre brings refugee experience to Studio 58. **P4**

## ONLINE SPECIAL

### E-books favoured

Langara's library continues to expand its electronic resources collection. [langaravoice.ca](http://langaravoice.ca)



PINNACLE COLLEGE MEDIA AWARDS  
NEWSPAPER  
of THE YEAR  
★ 2015 ★  
2nd PLACE  
★ 2016 ★

# the Voice

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## Red-light cameras rejected

*SE Marine and Knight to receive safety upgrades*

■ By LAURA BROUGHAM

**P**lans to improve safety at Vancouver's intersection with the highest collision rate do not include red-light cameras, despite evidence that they reduce accidents.

With construction starting in June, Knight Street and SE Marine Drive will gain a new left-turn lane onto Knight Street Bridge, a new traffic light and will ban left turns onto Borden Street. The intersection, which saw 231 accidents in 2015, has the most crashes in Vancouver according to ICBC.

Simon Goppel, a warehouse worker at Matrix Logistics Services Ltd., almost got hit by a car at the notorious intersection earlier this month.

"I was heading down the street and at this moment a fancy sports car drove with much too much speed, it almost killed me, I'm not kidding, it was driving so fast there. Not obeying the red light or green light," Goppel said, adding that it would help if drivers were fined. "It would be much safer [if] the car gets punished. The next time it will stop at the red light."

Transport Canada said red-light cameras can reduce the number of fatal red-light collisions by 35 per cent, but the intersection's safety upgrade plans don't include one.

**"It would be much safer [if] the car gets punished."**

— SIMON GOPPEL, WAREHOUSE WORKER

Bruce Taylor, a forklift operator for C2C Premium Seafood, has seen many near-accidents at the intersection. Like Goppel, he also thinks a red-light camera could help.

"People after a while will know that camera is there," Taylor said. "Little by little it will gradually decrease the number of people that try to run red lights, or run the amber lights."

Danielle Pope, public affairs officer for the B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, said the intersection's layout with an overpass, on-ramp and merging traffic are a challenge.

"The SE Marine Drive and Knight Street Bridge area is indeed busy with lots of traffic," Pope said in an email. "It was not deemed suitable for a red-light camera."

## Relieving grief with yoga....P5



Karma Teachers Centre for Yoga and Meditation, a Vancouver-based studio, offers a six-week-long grief integration yoga program to help participants develop a feeling of serenity. *SUBMITTED PHOTO*

## Senior gets centre built

*City honours South Van visionary with award*

■ By EVAN HAGEDORN

**A** Vancouver seniors advocate has been honoured with another award, this time from the City of Vancouver, for her drive to bring a seniors centre to Killarney.

Lorna Gibbs, president of the Southeast Vancouver Seniors' Arts & Cultural Society was given 2017 Civic Volunteer Award for her work to provide seniors in southeast Vancouver with an activities centre. After pursuing her vision for over a decade, Gibbs' project received support from all three levels of government in 2014 and construction on the centre began in January.

"When I retired I realized that [seniors] needed somewhere to go, something to do," Gibbs said. "I started looking around here and there wasn't [a seniors centre]."

Accessible by three major bus routes, the centre at East 49th Avenue and Killarney will offer on-site activities such as exercise and cooking programs as well as off-site excursions. The centre will also be utilized by other senior societies in the area, such as the South Vancouver Neighbourhood House and the South Vancouver Seniors Hub.

The two storey, 10,000 square-foot complex will encompass a dividable room for dining and meetings, on the first floor. The second floor will have additional meeting rooms, a lounge and a deck.

Construction is on schedule for the

centre to open in spring 2018, and will support the growing demographic of seniors in the area through community-based programs.

Michelle Stebnicki, the adults and seniors programmer for the Killarney Community Centre, said decisions are still being made for who will manage the new facility.

"We're not at the point right now where we're able to figure out who's going to be running the community centre," Stebnicki said, adding that all the key organizations involved "are going to work together in order to make it as accessible as possible and bring the best opportunities to seniors in the neighbourhood."



Lorna Gibbs, a South Vancouver resident, received a 2017 Civic Volunteer Award for her work to open a seniors centre in Killarney. *EVAN HAGEDORN PHOTO*

## Heart of community in limbo

*Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre may be uprooted*

■ By CHRISTOPHER THOROSKI

**A**fter being told by the city it could stay in its home, the Vancouver Park Board's oldest community centre is facing renewal and relocation consultations once again.

The Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre — which went through more than three years of discussion with the Park Board and former city manager Penny Ballem about its location — was told in December that the new city manager wanted to protectively do another location review.

"Obviously, I hit the roof because I thought we dealt with all that," said Mike Burdick, president of the Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre Association.

Last June, the Park Board voted unanimously to upgrade the centre with new amenities in its current location at West 59th Avenue and Oak Street. But just before the new year, the MOCA was told by NPA Park Board commissioner Sarah Kirby-Yung that the new city manager, Sadhu Johnston, wanted to hold a location consultation.

Burdick met with Johnston in late February to discuss this consultation process and to share research the MOCA already gathered.

"It's smack dab in the middle of Marpole, within walking distance of all the densification that's happening on Granville Street and...on Cambie Street," Burdick said, defending the centre's current location. "It's ridiculous. There is no reason to relocate."

While the consultation will go ahead, Burdick feels confident the centre will be able to stay where it is. He and Johnston also agreed the process will include research on what amenities the community centre should implement.

For others, the centre's location isn't as important as what it offers.

"I'm not attached to the building," said Vincent Wong, who has been going to the centre for over forty years. "When the building has reached the end of its useful life, the building should be rebuilt."

Albert Leung, the vice-president of MOCA, believes the location just needs to be in the community's best interest.

"It is the community's decision that we really have to respect," Leung said. "That's all that matters."



Mike Burdick  
PRESIDENT OF  
MOCA



# Snowy winter causes big holes

*Unexpected costs to city as bigger, badder potholes pop up*

■ By CHELSEA POWRIE

Vancouver's long winter appears to be over but the snow and ice has left the city's roads filled with an unprecedented number of potholes and cracks that will require significant repairs.

Jag Sandhu, a City of Vancouver spokesperson, said the city received 212 reports of potholes in December and more than 250 in January. Sandhu said that was an increase over last year, with 220 potholes reported in January 2016.

"We prioritize deeper potholes, and any potholes likely to cause damage or injury," said Sandhu in an email to *The Voice*. "We also consider things like areas with high traffic volume, and close proximity to establishments like hospitals and schools."

Sandhu said the city does not have a projected final cost for road repairs at this time, nor does it have data available on the total number of potholes that will need to be filled. The city estimates a pothole costs an average of \$13 each to fill.

In 2015, the city repaired 33,432 potholes — a slightly higher number than in 2014 — and spent about \$450,000 on the fixes. That tab is expected to be much higher this winter season.

Vancouver got hit with several snowfalls this year and temperatures dropped low enough for ice to form on roads and sidewalks. The slick conditions required heavy salt and sanding runs by the city, which contributed to the damaged roads.

Sam Tremblay of Tremblay Motors said potholes can knock a vehicle's wheel alignment out of balance and cause tire and rim damage, especially on newer cars with aluminum wheels. Tremblay said his shop has seen roughly a 25 per cent increase, compared to previous years, in customers' vehicles damaged from potholes.

"It's obviously because we've had a tougher winter this year," said Tremblay of the increase in repairs.

Some Vancouver residents took to Twitter to vent their frustration with the ongoing pothole problem. Twitter user @Rehgan\_T tweeted: "If a cop were to follow me around Vancouver for a day they would [probably] think I'm drunk but really I'm just swerving to miss all the potholes."

## COSTS OF WINTER VAN'S SNOW REMOVAL EXPENSES

### \$10.6 million

Extra costs in January and February of 2017. Half of the money has been spent on equipment, extra salt, contracted services and additional staff and equipment.

### \$9.4 million

Additional money requested to fund response to snow for 2017. Includes salt, sand and plowing.

### \$1.2 million

Costs related to missed collection of garbage during snowfalls.

SOURCE: CITY OF VANCOUVER



A New Westminster taxi waits on the side of the street waiting for a client. Many drivers feel threatened by Uber coming to the Lower Mainland. SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Ride share unfare: taxis

## New Westminster cabs at odds with government initiative

■ By BONNIE LEE LA MADELEINE

New Westminster Mayor Jonathan Côté supports the entry of ride-hailing services into the region as long as they are subject to the same regulatory and operational requirements that govern taxi and limo services.

Côté was reacting to last week's announcement from the provincial government that ride-hailing services such as Uber and Lyft will be operating in B.C. by Christmas.

"[The taxi companies] are going to try and fight this in every way they can," said Côté of the transportation companies that allow customers to hail a ride

via an app from someone driving their own car.

Cab drivers have long opposed the entry of ride-hailing companies from moving into the region, citing concerns about competition and low standards of the service.

To offset their concern, the government promised to implement seven measures, including limiting street-side hailing to taxis, increasing taxi supply and reducing red tape.

Mohan Kang, president of the B.C. Taxi Association, said he was concerned the government's

**"Uber and Uber-like services should be held to B.C. standards..."**

MOHAN KANG,  
PRESIDENT OF B.C. TAXI ASSOCIATION

recommendations will reduce safety regulations that oversee the taxi industry.

"Uber and Uber-like services should be held to B.C. standards for criminal [record]

checks, class four licences and training with the Justice Institute," Kang said. Instead, he added, the government has lowered safety standards for cabs by reducing requirements for drivers and

expanding the area of operation for cabs and ride-hailing services.

Taxi customer Shannon Dowle has a long list of complaints about taxi service. She welcomes any service that ensures she can get around without delays or hassle.

"I hate the taxis here," Dowle said. "I have waited 45 minutes at home for a cab and I was once stranded for 30 minutes."

She, and a group of women sitting with her near the play area at New Westminster Station, all want to see ride-hailing come to the city.

"But, if they improve customer service, I'd be happy to take a taxi again," Dowle said.

# Battery buses coming to coast

*Environmentally friendly transit pilot soon to appear on streets*

■ By SEAN HITREC

TransLink plans to buy up to four battery-electric powered passenger buses that will first run in a trial along Marine Drive between New Westminster and Vancouver.

The cost and implementation of what TransLink CEO Kevin Desmond called a "pilot project" was not revealed when he updated the mayors' council on regional transportation at a March 9 meeting in New Westminster.

"I personally believe [battery-electric] buses are the future," Desmond told mayors in response to a question from Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson about TransLink's appetite for electric buses.

Desmond said the buses will run through a relatively unserved area of New Westminster, South Burnaby and Vancouver along Marine Drive.

Currently, the TransLink fleet has 790 low-emissions diesel buses, 262 electric trolleys, 205 diesel-electric hybrids, 144 diesel community shuttles and 50 compressed natural gas-powered buses.

Translink is in the final stages of securing funding for the trial from Canadian Urban Transit Research & Innovation Consortium, said Geoff Cross, vice-president of transportation planning and policy for TransLink.

Cross told mayors the buses, which will be supplied by Canadian companies Nova Bus and New Flyer, will be ready for testing about a year after the funding is secured.

The Voice made further enquiries about the cost and implementation but neither TransLink nor the consortium would provide details.

The Winnipeg-based New Flyer said on its website every 40-foot battery-electric bus saves 160 tonnes of greenhouse gases per year compared to a diesel-powered bus.

Steve Kux, policy analyst for the David Suzuki Foundation, welcomed the news that TransLink was proceeding with a project that will help reduce pollution in the region. He said the buses would be perfect for the Lower Mainland because they do not produce any

emissions.

Burnaby Coun. Nick Volkow, who was the city's former transportation board chairperson, was excited about the plan for the bus-dependent community.

community.

"I don't see any downside whatsoever," said Volkow, adding that the Marine Drive corridor in Burnaby is notoriously underserved by transit.



A battery-electric bus by Nova Bus, one of the two manufacturers TransLink will be testing, silently and cleanly rolls down a Quebec street. SUBMITTED PHOTO



# Langara students rewrite Wiki history

Art history classes join in a global edit-a-thon to boost female content

■ By SASHA ZEIDLER

Students are helping rewrite history by adding to the Wikipedia pages of female artists in Canada.

The Art+Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-thon, a worldwide event held annually on International Women's Day for the last three years, focuses on adding content to the pages of otherwise underappreciated female artists.

Less than 10 per cent of Wikipedia contributors identify as female, the reason for this event, according to Art+Feminism.

Langara College students from two art history classes participated in the edit-a-thon, the first at Langara, and

featured Canadian female artists in their edits. Gathered in the library computer lab, students worked individually or in small groups to expand and add

been planning the event since November. She hopes students take away two things from the experience: "a knowledge of an artist that they may not have had before, but also their power as makers of knowledge themselves."

Mich Prins, a first-year fine arts student, said that a feminist approach in the classroom may help build solidarity among those who do not conform to "the system, or traditional Eurocentric narrative."

"Women artists in general are underrepresented in the media," Prins said. "But then we're talking about white women."

They still feel that transgender women, transgender women of colour and

"We're... bringing these voices to light because our society ignores people who are different."

— MICH PRINS  
LANGARA FINE ARTS STUDENT



new information to artist pages, or created entirely new page entries.

Alena Buis, an art history teacher and interim department chair, has

## CANADIAN ARTISTS SOME OF THE EDITED WIKI PAGES

### Paraskeva Clark

Born in Russia in 1898, a painter who believed art should focus on politics and societal issues.

### Janieta Eyre

Photographer born in 1966. Award-winner who's exhibited in Iceland, Spain and the U.S.

### Frances Loring

Born in 1887. Created some of Canada's most famous sculptures, with a variety of materials.

SOURCE: PARTICIPATING STUDENTS



Clockwise from left: Lolita Gambroudes shows students an Ecuadorian rainstick, wearing clothing and jewelry from Ecuador. Different embroidered works showcase the many coloured threads used to represent elements Mother Nature has given to humanity. Lolita and Rosario Gambroudes serving traditional Ecuadorian food to Latin American studies students. CASS LUCKE PHOTOS

## Holi-days overlooked

Students want to celebrate Hindu festival of colour on campus

■ By JASON GILDER

There was no Holi, the Hindu festival of colour, event at Langara College, despite the large Indian and Indo-Canadian community.

The festivities started on March 12 and last two days. The ancient religious festival is celebrated primarily in India and Nepal, but also around the world. People smear colourful pastes and powders on each other as they welcome the arrival of spring.

Last year, 10 per cent of all Langara students were from India. While the college has hosted Diwali events in the past, many students wanted a chance to celebrate Holi as well.

In India, second-year computer science student Jagmail Dhillon, always celebrated the holiday and said that with such a high East Indian population at Langara, it doesn't make sense to him that there is no Holi event.

"They have events here for Christmas and other holidays," Dhillon said. "Why wouldn't they have one for Holi?"

He also said it is confusing to him, because the school uses student fees to raise funds for events like this.

Harman Singh, of Langara's South Asian Club, said their group is aware of the absence, but feels the school doesn't have the funding to hold a Holi event.

"To host a Holi event can be very expensive," Singh said. "I do not feel Langara has a large enough space to accommodate such an event."

"Everybody in India celebrates [Holi]."

— GURJINDER SINGH, LANGARA STUDENT

He said that Langara should promote cultural diversity by focusing on a variety of groups and that there are many cultures on campus that should receive their own events.

The club is contributing to the promotion of a Holi event at UBC, being organized by the UBC Indian Students Association and taking place March 18.

Second-year computer science student Gurjinder Singh made it clear how important Holi is back in India. He said the entire country engages in the vibrant festival.

"Everybody in India celebrates it," Singh said. "It's a big part of the culture."

## Ecuador experience: food, music & art

Latin America Week showcases cultural diversity

■ By CASS LUCKE

A mother-daughter duo taught Langara College students about their Ecuadorian heritage and the importance of discovering new cultures.

*Colours of the Andes*, a presentation by Dolores "Lolita" Gambroudes, assistant department chair of modern languages at Langara, and her mother Rosario, part of Langara's annual Latin America

Week, showcased stories, instruments and nature that I wish people here would adopt," Lolita said. "South Americans managed to maintain culture and diversity instead of one culture completely

dominating the other." Students who attended the event said exposure to the culture helped to better understand themselves within society.

"The culture is so different from ours; I think the only way to learn more about yourself and our species is to explore all the different ways we interact," Ayan Abdirahman, Langara social service worker student, said.

Jessie Smith, coordinator of Latin American studies and creator of Latin America Week at Langara, uses events like this to help students recognize the culture's history, economics, politics and

"There's a respect for diversity and nature that I wish people here would adopt."

— LOLITA GAMBROUDES, EVENT HOST

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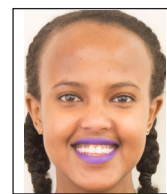
worker student, said.

Jessie Smith, coordinator of Latin American studies and creator of Latin America Week at Langara, uses events like this to help students recognize the culture's history, economics, politics and

bravery against injustice, aspects she has always loved.

"A lot of Canadians think of Latin America as Mexico, but there's a lot more to it than that," Smith said. "Events like this, where we bring a little extra like delicious food, help make an important and interesting culture more prominent on campus."

Smith hopes students will attend further multicultural events and register for Latin American studies classes. She feels this will help students learn about the world and its many cultures.



Ayan Abdirahman  
SOCIAL SERVICE  
WORKER STUDENT





The Refugee Hotel tells the story of Chilean refugees escaping the Pinochet regime and starting over in Vancouver in 1974. EMILY COOPER PHOTO

# Refugees in the spotlight

*The Refugee Hotel play is inspired from real-life incidents*

■ By SASHA LAKIC

Langara alumnus Carmen Aguirre is bringing *The Refugee Hotel* to Studio 58 to tell from first-hand experience what it means to be a refugee.

The dark comedy takes place in a run-down hotel in Vancouver's West End, and follows a group of Chilean refugees, who escaped Augusto Pinochet's military dictatorship in the 1970s, as they restart their new lives in Canada.

Aguirre, who stayed at one such refugee hotel on Denman Street with her family in 1974, said two memories from her

life inspired her to write the play.

"One [inspiration] is my uncle, who was one of the first Chilean refugees to arrive in Vancouver, and he drank himself to death in 1995," said Aguirre. "And then in 1998, Pinochet was arrested in London, England, and was charged with crimes against humanity."

Kathryn Shaw, artistic director of Studio 58, approached Aguirre to direct *The Refugee Hotel* at Langara after she read the play again and noticed similarities in current domestic politics.

"I have had the play in my sights for

many years," said Shaw in an emailed statement. "And it came to mind again when the Syrian refugee crisis and Canada's acceptance of 25,000 Syrian refugees was front and centre in the news."

Elizabeth Barrett, who plays the lead role of mother and former government prisoner, Flaca, said the play has been very eye-opening for the cast, none of whom is from Latin America.

"I think it's a wonderful history lesson and an important story to tell," said Barrett of the play's themes. "The more education we have, the more we can avoid situations like this in the future."

*The Refugee Hotel* runs from March 23 to April 9.

"None of the characters fit the Latino stereotype that we are fed by the media, so if [people] walk away with a more empathy towards refugees, that would be a huge thing," Aguirre said.

## REFUGEE TIMELINE HOW EVENTS UNFOLDED

**1973** Augusto Pinochet leads military coup

**1974** Carmen Aguirre arrives in Vancouver with first wave of refugees

**1998** Pinochet is arrested in London

**2006** Pinochet dies on December 10

**2017** *The Refugee Hotel* runs from March 23 to April 9

"I think it's a wonderful history lesson and an important story to tell."

—ELIZABETH BARRETT, ACTOR,  
THE REFUGEE HOTEL

# Exhibit recalls wartime horrors



Testimonies and photographs among the exhibits at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre. RICA TALAY PHOTO



Ilona Shulman Spaar, the educational director of the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, on March 9. RICA TALAY PHOTO

*Exhibit at the Holocaust centre showcases first person stories*

■ By RICA TALAY

The Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre's new exhibit explores interactions between Canadians and Holocaust survivors during the end of the Second World War and after.

The "Canada Responds to The Holocaust 1944-45" exhibition features works and testimonies from Canadian war artists, journalists and photographers and other individuals. It is extended till May 26, instead of March 31.

According to Ilona Shulman Spaar, the education director at the centre, which is located inside the Jewish Community Centre, the reason for the extension is due to the great response from the public and more classes interested to visit the exhibition.

"Another reason is because we want to do a bit more outreach," Spaar said. "There may be communities that we would like to invite."

The exhibition features local connec-

tions to Vancouver including Dr. John F. McCreary, former head of department of pediatrics at UBC, who was a witness to the Holocaust. McCreary was present at the liberation at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

Spaar said although the centre tries to make sure they break down the Holocaust to personal stories. "It really helps [students] to relate, it's not just a number," Spaar said.

Rachel Mines, a Langara English instructor who teaches "Writing Lives" a class that allows students to work with local Holocaust survivors produce write 10 memoirs, said it's important

"There may be communities that we would like to invite."

—ILONA SHULMAN SPAAR, HOLOCAUST CENTRE

for students to learn outside of the classroom so they can get a more personal perspective.

"When you take students outside of the classroom, what students learn takes on I think, a more personal meaning and also just a broader meaning in general," Mines said.

Simeon Zekic a 19-year-old arts history student taking the "Writing Lives" class said the reason why it's important to learn about the Holocaust is that it still impacts the modern day.

"[I] think it would be a waste to not bother to get more in depth of learning while you still can learn about it. While we still have eyewitnesses," Zekic said.

# End of winter season carnival at Kerrisdale

*Club hosts a gala event for first time in 17 years to celebrate the end of winter season*

■ By VIOLETTA KRYAK

The Kerrisdale Figure Skating Club hosted its carnival in 17 years on Saturday, March 11, at Kerrisdale Cyclone Taylor Arena to celebrate the end of winter.

The carnival, named "Around the World", told stories from nations all over the planet and featured 32 performances by the club skaters. The routines were set to music from different countries in the world.

The carnival was proposed by the club's new coaches, who were willing to organize it as well, said Margot Delorme, the club's president.

"In the past, none of our coaches wanted to do it because it's such a big job," said Delorme. "It's a showcase of our skaters and a fun time for the kids and something they will remember for the rest of their life we hope."

Shannon and Nikolai Balabardin are new coaches to the club, who have been featured skaters in *Disney on Ice* for many years and know

all the right steps of putting an ice show together.

"It can build membership of the skating club, and it's really good for the skaters who are in the club already, because it promotes teamwork as well, as skating is mostly an individual sport," said skating director and coach Shannon Balabardin.

Audrey Larke, a skater at the club for nine years said the carnival brings a different spirit to the club.

"We used to do club competitions, where we compete against each other, but now we are doing a show where we all work together and help each other instead. It's a happier time," Larke said.

The audience of nearly 100 people mainly consisted of family members of the young skaters, who said a carnival was a good idea.

"It's an opportunity for them to show what they've learned throughout the year and how they've developed," said Craig Munro, who came to see his daughter's performance in the carnival.

The carnival marked the end of winter season for the skaters, as they will now be moving to the Hillcrest Rink to practise their spring season routines.



Polina Balabardina, 5, performing at the "Around the World" carnival at Kerrisdale Figure Skating Club, March 11, 2017. VIOLETTA KRYAK PHOTO





Students mix ingredients of their choice using stainless steel bowls and rubber spatulas to make their own special bars of soap. LAURA BROUGHAM PHOTO

# DIY soap reflects values

*Sudsy class ditches unwanted products and footprint*

By LAURA BROUGHAM

Making handmade soap is an option for vegetarians who prefer to use high quality cleansers that do not have animal-based ingredients. People can make soap with plant and vegetable fats because the product they make agrees with their lifestyles and complements their principles. “[People come to the workshops] because of the quality and the process and the control they have over the ingredients, not necessarily because it’s vegetarian,” said Kate Duda, the owner of Plenty + Spare, a Vancouver-based

soap-making company. “You can make an incredibly high-quality soap with any kind of scrap animal fats that you’ve sourced locally, and in that case you’ve reduced your shipping footprint, you’ve reduced your packaging footprint, you’ve avoided palm oil, that sort of thing,” Duda said. She teaches the soap-making class. The option to make soap with plant oils attracted Jennifer Bigler. “I’m vegetarian, I don’t eat meat, so I

“I don't eat meat, so I don't want to be using animal products on my skin.”

— JENNIFER BIGLER, PURCHASER

don’t want to be using animal products on my skin,” said Bigler, who works at Cambridge Uniforms. Conventional soaps that are bought in grocery shops don’t necessarily have animal products but they also might not have the natural glycerine that gives soap a smooth texture. “Because it’s handmade there’s natural glycerine in the soap, [and] there’s no added unnecessary ingredients,” Duda said. She was explaining the main difference between conven-

tional soap sold at a grocery store and handmade soap. Buying soap-making ingredients at a bulk supply shop can be less expensive than getting them at a grocery store. Duda encourages people to get equipment they’ll need to make soap at home, at a second-hand store. Rick Havlak, owner of Homestead Junction, where the soap-making workshop is taught, said the class is important because it lets people become more familiar with a product they use everyday. “Soap making was actually one of the first workshops we offered, back in 2012 when we first opened,” Havlak said. “Almost everybody uses [soap], and almost nobody really understands how it’s made.”

# Irrigation boosts H<sub>2</sub>O efficiency



Ian Griffiths will talk about the different hoses and valves that are used in an irrigation system during his workshop on March 23. SUBMITTED PHOTO

*Drip and flow systems help gardens during water shortages*

By KURTIS GREGORY

Gardens without water-saving systems will suffer most during water shortages. During Stage 3 water restrictions in Vancouver in the summer of 2015 — the first in 12 years — gardeners had to use drip irrigation or water by hand. Irrigation systems can be installed in small and medium sized gardens and deliver water directly onto or near the root system to control water use and keep gardens green during drought conditions. Lee Valley Tools on Marine Drive will hold a free irrigation workshop on March 23. “At Stage 3, when it comes to any watering hook ups, you’re not allowed to use any soaker hoses, you’re not allowed to use garden sprinklers,” said Ian Griffiths, a longtime gardener who teaches the workshop. “So if you have a proper irrigation system set up to a drip-type system, you’re good to go.” Jody Baker, a member of the Strath-

cona Community Gardens, remembers when the Stage 3 water restrictions went into place and the city shut off the gardens’ water supply. “Everyone was affected, it wasn’t just us,” Baker said. “It wasn’t that long, it was just a couple of weeks as I recall. I think some stuff died, things kind of went sideways.” The system, a free-drip and low-flow irrigation set-up, that Griffiths teaches in his workshop can be made to drip anywhere from four litres an hour to around a 100 litres an hour. “That’s an awful lot of water,” said Laura Doheny, store manager at Hunters Garden Centre. Depending on the number of hoses and valves that are set-up in the system, where each valve is dropping 10 litres per hour, she said it could easily exceed 100 litres per hour, she said. Egan Davis, a horticulturalist at UBC, says conventional watering methods can be wasteful if not done properly. “If you’ve got a hose and a wand and it’s on full blast, then in half an hour you can use 1,500 litres of water,” Davis said. However, according to Davis, drip irrigation remains the most efficient way to water plants. Davis said gardeners should learn how to do it right, so they can reduce the amount of water wasted on their gardens. The workshop might be a good place to start.

# Yoga takes on grief

*Loss resolved through yin practice, joint movements*

By CASS LUCKE

Learning to cope with the physical, social and mental effects of loss can become easier with yoga, especially if facing that grief is part of the practice. Grief integration yoga gives the bereaved space and time to work through the complex effects of loss. An instructor at Karma Teachers Centre for Yoga and Meditation started GIY to deal with her own challenges. “I was going through intense times in my own life, all I wanted was a space where it was okay to break down,” said Juniper Quin, who began teaching GIY in 2014. The yoga class uses vocal exercises,

“It's meant to broaden your mind and relax you, like this class just did.”

— JOSCHA BRANGS, GIY STUDENT

simple joint rotation, yin yoga and focused breathing to help students through different aspects of grief over a period of six weeks. “The whole purpose of the practice is to create a stable, safe space where the student can witness themselves feeling big emotions,” Quin said. Karla Helbert, a therapist, trained yoga instructor and bereaved mother, said, “yoga is all about ritual, and ritual really helps us to process and connect with our own hearts and the world around us. Grief is a process that really demands ritual.” Joscha Brangs who has taken the class three times, said grief yoga left him feeling more serene than any other yoga practice he has tried. “Yoga isn’t meant to be a workout,” Brangs said. “It’s meant to broaden your mind and relax you, like this class just did for me.” Helbert said GIY offers a less intense approach than counselling. “In grief, all the parts of who we are, are hugely impacted,” she said. “All the different practices of yoga address all the different issues a grieving person goes through.” Each GIY focuses on different aspects of grieving.



Simple yoga poses help students to resolve their grief. CASS LUCKE PHOTO



# A year without Holi

Students at Langara are upset about the lack of any official celebrations marking the Hindu holiday of Holi, the festival of colour and love that encourages the triumph of good over evil and light over dark.

So, if it's such a big deal to our student body, why did none of us put anything together?

It is not the sole responsibility of the college to organize such events. Both UBC and SFU held Holi celebrations, neither of which was organized by the school. Instead, it was the students who did it.

There was some chatter that the school did not have the space or resources to properly carry out celebrations. But, Langara's front lawn is a field that seems perfect for throwing brightly coloured powder around, one of the distinct representations of Holi.



## OPINION

SASHA ZEIDLER

"It is not the sole responsibility of the college to organize such events."

Langara does its best to recognize a wide variety of religions and cultures with celebrations for important holidays. Celebrations for Christmas, Chinese New Year, Diwali and even Halloween are common, but it is unrealistic to assume that they are able to organize events to the satisfaction of every student on campus.

If the school put together an event for every day with cultural meaning, there would be little time left for learning.

Langara is making an effort to celebrate the diversity of its campus, but can only do so much. If a holiday deserves more attention than the college is able to give, then we as students should be the ones to do something about it.

And, let's face it, students throw much better parties anyway.

## We want to hear from you

Have a different point of view?

Write to us.

Have a concern with something we've said?

Let us know.

Think we got a fact wrong?

Tell us.

# Writing the wrongs of Wiki

Improving Wikipedia content and smashing the patriarchy? Challenge accepted.

Women in Red is a WikiProject whose mission is to write, rewrite and edit female-centric content on Wikipedia. Essentially, women writing women's history. Imagine that.

The group says only 16 per cent of English women's biographies are written. By anyone. Their annual event, an edit-a-thon, is open to women from all over the world, and the best



## OPINION

KRISTYN ANTHONY

part of the whole project is inclusivity.

This year's partner, Art+Feminism writes in their mandate, "We invite people of all gender identities and expressions to participate."

It's no secret that a large part of history has spouted from the pens of straight, wealthy, white men both figuratively and literally, on the page.

Women were mostly relegated to filling the pages, or making sure dinner was ready at the end of the day. And, just when we thought we were putting those archaic systems behind us,

America elected Donald J. Trump to the presidency along with the arguably worse, Vice President Mike Pence.

"What's the problem with letting men write the course of history? Ask a woman."

More straight, wealthy, white men who believe they know women better than women do.

America was so afraid of giving a woman the keys to the White House, they could barely bring themselves to elect Hillary Clinton. But they did, until the electoral college — a system created by men — shifted the victory.

Trump and Pence are currently at work writing and rewriting legislation

on healthcare, access to reproductive options (yes, abortion!), LGBTQ rights and immigration.

The man who bragged about sexual assault and harassment of women and underage girls, armed with his trusty little homophobic sidekick, is now the authority on what women can and should do with their bodies and their lives.

Meanwhile, transgender women continue to be murdered at an alarming rate; five already in 2017 as I write this. They are regularly misgendered and referred to by their birth names, evidence that even the media can't seem to get it right.

So, what is the problem with letting men write the course of history?

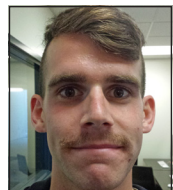
Ask any woman.



# The Holocaust through a Canadian lens

Viewing the Holocaust through the lens of Canadians is not something we often consider when discussing the genocide responsible for the deaths of six million Jews.

Canada's role in liberating Nazi occupied



## OPINION

DUNCAN ANDERSON

concentration camps is part of a chapter in our history that few may know about.

The Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre's current exhibit Canada Responds to the Holocaust, 1944-1945 brings this story to a new generation of Canadians, preserving the legacy of Canadian soldiers in the Second World War.

The exhibit, which also includes the stories of medical aid workers, war photographers, journalists, artists and soldiers of all religions, accurately grasps the loneliness, despair and powerlessness

the Jewish community must have felt during the Holocaust.

These incredible stories of hope and resistance of people are too often forgotten or overlooked the further history moves on from WWII.

Outside of this exhibit, stories of Canadians involved in these battles are hard. History has rendered the Holocaust a European story despite the allied forces who assisted in defeating Hitler.

I visited the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe in Berlin where

I lived for two years and there was little mention of the efforts of Canadian forces.

For our generations of Canadians in particular, it's hard to imagine living through the atrocities of war growing up at the turn of the millennium. But, what this exhibit highlights is the long-term effects of war survivors, both physical and psychological.

As images of war refugees from all over the world flash in our daily news-casts, it's clear we haven't put this part of the past behind us.

theVoice

The Voice is published by Langara College's journalism department. Editorial opinions are those of the staff and are independent of views of the student

government and administration. We welcome letters to the editor. They may be edited for brevity. Your letter must include your name and phone number.

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# Reveling in our differences

*Diversity at Langara: A look at culture, politics and religion on campus*



Members of the Langara Sikh Association gather with students from UBC and SFU at an event held last August to discuss religion and faith. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## No time for political debates

*Students open to dialogue but lack time*

■ By SHOJI WHITTIER

While many students at Langara College feel their political views can be shared openly on campus, few have enough time to get politically involved or put their views into action before they graduate.

Paul Prosperi, department chair of the Langara political science department, said Langara's role as a university transfer college limits political activism on campus. The high student turnover rate, he explained, means there isn't enough continuity among students to set up political clubs.

"Somebody will come and say they want to start a [political club], and that club will exist for a year or two, and then it dies when that individual transfers to SFU or UBC," Prosperi said. "[Activism] requires an investment in time and energy on the part of people, so if you don't have a culture on campus where that takes place, it acts as a barrier to people getting involved."

Amit Mahajan, a business management student, said that he isn't politically active but he would like to see more political events on campus.

"I don't have much interest in these things, but it should be more encouraged, there should be rallies and things like that," Mahajan said.

That is not to say that political views cannot be shared at Langara. Many students said the college allows for free discussion of politics.

Jenna Loewen, enrolled in the Latin-American studies program, said she finds Langara and B.C. to be more accepting of various political opinions than other places she has lived.

"I'm from Alberta, and it is not easy to be [political] there," Loewen said. "There's a lot of diversity [here], and a lot more acceptance for open conversation in regards to policies."

## Welcoming a range of religions

*Faith-focused clubs foster multitude of beliefs on campus*

■ By JASON GILDER

Religious diversity can be a hot-button topic and with the multitude of different religions at Langara College, students say they feel secure expressing their faith and beliefs because of the range of diversity.

The large number of student clubs at Langara dedicated to different faiths is a testament to the diversity of beliefs. This semester, there are half a dozen active religious clubs — three focusing on Christianity, one on Islam, one on Judaism and one on Sikhism.

Second-year science student Jaspreet Singh, who is a member of the Langara

Sikh Association, said that he noticed the diversity of religions on campus at Clubs Day when all the academic, sports and cultural student clubs gathered together in the main foyer of the campus.

"I saw many different stations," Singh said. "There was a Muslim station, Christian, Jewish."

Singh said that he feels very welcome at Langara to express his Sikh faith on

campus because of how many other religions there are.

Jessica Gao, organizer for the Christian group Every Nation Campus, said that Langara is unusual in its openness towards religion. She compared the college to SFU, where Every Nation Campus

was first established.

"The environment here is more open and welcoming," Gao said. "It's very

**"I saw many different stations ... A Muslim station, Christian, Jewish."**

— JASPREET SINGH, MEMBER OF LANGARA SIKH ASSOCIATION

## Students seek out diversity on campus

*Still not enough cultural variety, students say*

■ By DUNCAN ANDERSON

Students travel from around the world to get an education at Langara College and, with more than 80 countries represented by international students, cultural diversity shows up both in and outside the classroom.

For some students, the promise of diversity is what drew them to Langara. Business student William Ieong said multiculturalism was an important element in his choice of college.

"One of the reasons I came to Langara is that it helped me to understand other cultures," Ieong said. "How they connect to each other is really interesting if you learn their backgrounds or maybe learn their language too."

This desire to know more about other cultures led Ieong to the Langara Chinese Students and Scholars Association,

where he is now the events administrator. He said the club gives Chinese students the chance to make friends more easily.

"We have an event every month with three big events throughout the year that contain around 100 people," Ieong said.

Not all cultural events on campus directly aim to celebrate diversity. Jessie Smith, board member of the interdisciplinary studies department, said that Latin America Week, held earlier this month, was organized to promote the academic program but many students attended to experience Latino culture and food.

"One of our instructors and her mother cooked food [from the Andean region] for the event," Smith said. "Some of the students who showed up had never tried it before and they loved it."

Some students on campus do not think there is as much diversity as expected though.

Kosta Kolokatsis, a modern languages instructor at Columbia College who is enrolled in the Latin American stud-

ies program at Langara, said that it is difficult to find genuine cultural diversity because of a predominance of some nationalities.

"If you want the cultural diversity, you can't get ... that in the classroom because there are majority groups and they

dominate," Kolokatsis said.

Nearly a quarter of students at Langara come from abroad, according to a report by the college's Institutional Research Board using data from Fall 2016. Of those, 45 per cent were from India and 24 per cent from China.



Students load their plates at A taste of Los Andes during Latin America Week. CASS LUCKE PHOTO

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

23%

Percentage of students that are international at Langara.

43

Number of countries where five or fewer Langara students are from.

18%

Percentage of international students in British Columbia.

SOURCES: LANGARA INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH BOARD AND STATISTICS CANADA



# It's the big leagues for a little batsman

*Nine-year-old boy starts the cricket season in a tournament with adults twice his age*

■ By SYDNEY MORTON

At nine years of age, Kabir Singh Makkar will be facing off against adult players, at a 50-over cricket tournament next month.

Kabir has played cricket for four years and trained at the U.K.-based Lord's Cricket Ground, a world-renowned academy.

He dreams one day of competing professionally.

"I want to play for India's [national] team," Kabir said.

He practises every day after school. While he plays with other kids his own age, he prefers the challenge of adult matches.

"They try to hit you and stuff, they try to be physical," said the four-foot, 66-pound batsman. "They are trying to aim at the body."

He is excited to play bigger games with adults, even though he admits sometimes he is scared of the leather ball because it moves quickly.

The British Columbia Mainland Cricket League will be hosting the upcoming tournament, in which each team has 50 overs to bat. Forty teams from the Lower Mainland will compete; the Meraloma Cricket Club is entering three teams in different difficulty levels.

Kabir will be playing on two teams, in separate divisions.

Kabir's father, Kanwaljit Singh Makkar is also his teammate.

"I think that in his age group, he is amongst the first two or three guys," Makkar said.

Cricket is played by all ages in India.

"It is like a religion, India is a vast country with so many languages, but the only thing that is binding and unifying is cricket," Makkar said.

The various tournaments that are being hosted this spring by BCML include T20 and a 50-over tournament.

"One game can take from six to eight hours," said Stuart Grills, a Meraloma player.

"We have been very fortunate to have some senior players that have some children of their own participate in growing the game," Grills said, a team captain at MCC, one of the few clubs that offer children's training programs. At the cricket club, senior members teach the kids.

"A lot of other clubs are made up of younger adults that don't have that time or that connection to children," Grills said.

It is a grassroots sport, he said. And he added that the club is very inclusive, made up of Canadians, ex-pats and a large South Asian community.

The tournament will feature four teams from South Vancouver — MCC, Lankan Kings, West Coast Tamils and Salak Cricket Club.

Kabir says he wanted to play cricket because of his dad. Makkar himself has been a lifelong cricket player, and once dreamed of playing professionally.

He believes Kabir may have the discipline to do what he couldn't.

"What I can't achieve maybe he can achieve," Makkar said.

**Kabir Singh Makkar practises batting in the back room of his family's pizza shop on Fraser Street. He competes with his father in 'pretend' test matches, hoping to be the winner. PHOTO BY SYDNEY MORTON**



**Kanwaljit Makkar,**  
FATHER OF KABIR  
AND SHOP OWNER

# Dodging more balls than ever

*Co-ed league grows thanks to sense of community, healthy competition*

■ By SAM MOWERS

Balls will fly when rival players throw down at the Kings and Queens Dodgeball Tournament on March 18 at David Thompson Secondary School.

The Vancouver Dodgeball League began with only 12 people in 2004 but today has over 1,500 players, with more than 200 teams registered, currently the city's largest league with two four-month seasons per year.

The only other tournament of its kind happened in 2014. Marcy Kam, the VDL programs director said, "Our typical league is co-ed, whereas

this tournament is all-female teams and all-male teams that are put against each other and they go for [it]."

Eight teams with approximately six players will be eliminated through round-robin, single elimination and best of seven sets for the semifinals and finals.

First and second place winners in both divisions will get gift certificate prizes to sponsor East Side Craft House.

League member Byron Wong looks forward to the all-male team, since groups are usually four guys and two girls.

"No leagues actually have one where it's all guys or all girls so it's a good chance [...] to see how they stand," Wong said.

"It's a very unique tournament."

He joined eight years ago on the advice of his best friend, who thought that VDL would help him.

"It was during a time that was after a pretty bad breakup, so she just wanted to get me out of the house and introduce me to a community that was very positive," he said.

**"It was during a time that was after a pretty bad breakup."**

—BYRON WONG,



Wong put the league's popularity down to the community element and competitive aspects of the game.

"We're all out here to have a good time, break a good sweat and meet new people," he said.

League coordinator Nathan Wilkins doesn't imagine ever stopping playing dodgeball.

"It's a lot of fun, I've been doing it for years and I'm probably going to do it until my arm falls off," Wilkins said.



**League veteran makes it to the final round and gets pummelled, gracefully.**

SAM MOWERS PHOTO

# Switching places to compete

*Volunteers face each other in curling tankard*

■ By CASSANDRA OSBORNE

Team Canada will face Team America in the International Tankard which knocks off this weekend at Marpole Curling Club.

The two-day event moves cities every year, rotating between British Columbia and the United States, but tradition remains the same — six teams play three games for the win.

"Players vie for a trophy but it's not

highly competitive. It is an honour to play," said Ross Johnson, organizer and veteran of the international tankard.

Clubs, like Marpole, are invited to bid on hosting. Then when chosen, volunteers are nominated to participate from 22 clubs in the Lower Mainland and all of Vancouver Island.

"It is the same on the American side, despite having a smaller base to draw from. The majority are from Seattle, but some arrive from Utah, Arizona, Idaho and Oregon," Johnson said.

He remembers competing in the 1992 tankard held in Chilliwack. "You get to meet new people to share curling

ideas," Johnson said. "It's a way for clubs to reward their volunteers."

It is possible that participants don't know each other and meet on the first day of the event, Johnson added.

The nearly 60-year-old Marpole Curling Club began as a men's only, allowing women to curl and vote as members later on, said Pam Langham, the general manager.

Now, the teams are mixed with any combination of men and women, she added.

With two weeks left of the season and 19 leagues in the playoffs, Langham said she is looking forward to this weekend's competition, which closes with everyone holding hands and singing Auld Lang Syne.

"It's not about how well they curl, it's about recognition for curling," she said. "It's a big huge thank you members."

**"Players vie for a trophy but it's not highly competitive."**

—ROSS JOHNSON, ORGANIZER OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL TANKARD



**The pressure is on while two league members gather balls, ready to throw and ready to dodge.** SAM MOWERS PHOTO